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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: )  
KIYOFUMI SAKAGUCHI, ET AL. )  
Application No.: 10/085,046 )  
Filed: March 1, 2002 )  
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF )  
SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATE )  
)

Examiner: G. Fourson, III

Group Art Unit: 2823

July 6, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

The following sets forth the substance of the interview held by applicants' attorneys with Examiner Fourson and Special Programs Examiner LaBalle on June 8, 2005 in regard to the subject application.

The purpose of the interview was so that applicants could better determine how the PTO desired the prospective interference to be set up. At the interview, applicants provided the Examiners with exhibits showing (a) a time line of the subject application, its related applications, the applications with which an interference is being requested (U.S. Patent Nos. 6,107,213, 6,194,245, 6,326,280 and 6,426,274), as well as their related applications, (b) the relationship of the pending and withdrawn claims in the subject application to the corresponding claims in the '213, '245, 280 and '274 patents, and (c) the relationship between the withdrawn

claims, if presented in a separation divisional application, to the corresponding claims in the '213, '245, 280 and '274 patents (copies attached). In particular, in the context of setting up the interference, the previously entered restriction/election requirements were discussed. It was the applicants' position that the restriction/election requirements had complicated the interference issues and made setting up an interference more difficult. The Examiners indicated that these requirements would be reconsidered in view of the applicants' remarks, and that we should be hearing back from them in approximately one month..

The applicants wish to thank the Examiners for the courtesies extended during the interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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